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Group Art Unit: 1641

Examiner: M. Ceperley

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**SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT AND**  
**RESPONSE TO PATENT OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

Date: March 18, 2002

Further to Applicant's November 28, 2001 Amendment and in response to the February 19, 2002 Patent Office Paper, please amend the application as follows:

Please amend claim 14 as follows:

(a) preparing a solid phase on which a conjugate of a poly(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>)-alkylene oxide and an analyte-specific reactant that interacts with the analyte has been applied such that the conjugate is immobilized,

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